

## *Eremophila alpestris* (Horned Lark)

### Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

**Class:** Aves (Birds)

**Order:** Passeriformes (Perching Birds)

**Family:** Alaudidae (Larks)

#### General comments:

Trend for Northern Spruce-Hardwood region alone meets Endangered criteria, so qualifies for Threatened status. Rare breeder, few sites, small population, but occurrence data too limited to justify Threatened status.

#### Species Conservation Range Maps for Horned Lark:

Town Map: [Eremophila alpestris\\_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Eremophila alpestris\\_HUC12.pdf](#)

#### SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

**Risk of Extirpation:** NA

**State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:**

*Eremophila alpestris* is listed as a species of Special Concern in Maine.

**Recent Significant Declines:** NA

**Regional Endemic:** NA

**High Regional Conservation Priority:** NA

**High Climate Change Vulnerability:** NA

**Understudied rare taxa:** NA

**Historical:** NA

**Culturally Significant:** NA

#### Habitats Assigned to Horned Lark:

Formation Name	Agricultural
Macrogroup Name	Agricultural
Formation Name	Coastal Scrub-Herb
Macrogroup Name	Coastal Grassland & Shrubland
Formation Name	Developed
Macrogroup Name	Maintained Grasses and Mixed Cover

#### Stressors Assigned to Horned Lark:

No Stressors Currently Assigned to Horned Lark or other Priority 3 SGCN.

#### Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Horned Lark:

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to Horned Lark or other Priority 3 SGCN.

#### Conservation Actions Associated with the Grassland Guild:

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<b>Conservation Action</b>	<b>Category:</b> Public Outreach	<b>Biological Priority:</b> high	<b>Type:</b> new
Develop a program to inform small landowners of the best methods for keeping fields open for grassland wildlife			

**Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action**

Livestock Farming and Ranching

<b>Conservation Action</b>	<b>Category:</b> Species Management	<b>Biological Priority:</b> high	<b>Type:</b> new
Develop a BMP guide for farmers to minimize negative effects of cutting hay/silage during the grassland bird nesting season. NRCS recommendations should be viewed as a start with increased emphasis on timing, field size, and bird behavioral cues.			

**Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action**

Livestock Farming and Ranching

**Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:**

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

**Habitat Based Conservation Actions:**

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

*The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.*